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<b>(21) International Application Number:</b> PCT/US99/14643		<b>(74) Agents:</b> REED, T., David et al.; The Procter & Gamble Company, 5299 Spring Grove Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45217-1087 (US).	
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<b>(30) Priority Data:</b> PCT/US98/13449 29 June 1998 (29.06.98) US PCT/US98/13497 29 June 1998 (29.06.98) US PCT/US98/13521 29 June 1998 (29.06.98) US PCT/US98/13523 29 June 1998 (29.06.98) US		<b>(81) Designated States:</b> AE, AL, AM, AT, AT (Utility model), AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, CZ (Utility model), DE, DE (Utility model), DK, DK (Utility model), EE, EE (Utility model), ES, FI, FI (Utility model), GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SK (Utility model), SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).	
<b>(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US):</b> THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY [US/US]; One Procter & Gamble Plaza, Cincinnati, OH 45202 (US).			
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<b>(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only):</b> EHRNSPERGER, Bruno, Johannes [DE/DE]; Westerbachstrasse 89, D-65936 Frankfurt (DE). SCHMIDT, Mattias [DE/DE]; Altkoenigweg 3, D-65510 Idstein (DE). GRUENBACHER, Dana, Paul [US/US]; 1867 Harrogate Hill Lane, Fairfield, OH 45014 (US). SCHOENE, Rainer, Walter [DE/DE]; Rombergweg 15, D-61462 Königstein (DE). WNUK, Andrew, Julian [US/US]; 450 Hidden Valley Lane, Wyoming, OH 45215 (US).		<b>Published</b> <i>With international search report.</i> <i>Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i>	
<b>(54) Title:</b> DEVICE FOR ABSORBING OR COLLECTING A LIQUID			
<b>(57) Abstract</b> <p>The present invention relates to a device for absorbing a liquid, comprising a liquid reservoir and a porous membrane, the reservoir comprising an inlet, wherein the reservoir is at least partly occupied by a porous bulk material, wherein the membrane is hermetically sealed to or around the reservoir so that fluid passing through the inlet must pass across the membrane, and wherein the membrane has an average pore size of from 1 to 100 micrometers.</p>			

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.  
PCT/US 99/14643

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
IPC 7 B01J20/28 C09K3/32 E02B15/04

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
IPC 7 B01J C09K E02B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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A	EP 0 278 476 A (DU PONT) 17 August 1988 (1988-08-17) the whole document ---	1
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International Application No

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